

From: <Gerome.Torribio@SCE.com>
To: "Chuck Solt" <chuck@csolt.net>
Date: Mon, Dec 12, 2005 3:38 PM
Subject: Re: Rule 21 Meeting 72 Assignments Special Review and Protection Requirements for Combined Technology Projects

Chuck,
After last month's Working Group meeting, I got an e-mail from Anthony Mazy asking if it was possible to provide a brief summary of this issue--which had been discussed, but not really defined. Scott Lacy has recommended that this matter receive detailed examination and discussion among the members of the technical group, including the distribution system engineers from the utility members. That being said, here is a preliminary "nutshell," introduction to the issue which I ask that you post on the Rule 21 website for perusal by the Working Group members.

In performing the technical review of proposed interconnections of PV-only systems, project developers and utilities have been able to take advantage of the inherent characteristics of solid-state inverters to isolate the generation from faults on the utility distribution system to minimize extent of engineering time spent by the utility. By contrast, rotating generation machinery interconnected so as to allow power export from the customer's site has the capability of feeding faults, hence may require additional fault detection or protective equipment to be installed. In the context of the Rule 21 application process, this translates into a need for Supplemental Review or, possibly, Interconnection Studies. This is the basis of comments in previous meetings that the interconnection of combined technology Net Energy Metering projects will bring added technical complexity.

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